

RQ-2



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

March 2, 2005

James Ricci, Treasurer  
Diageo North America Inc. Employees' Political  
Participation Committee  
750 East Main Street  
Stamford, CT 06902

**Response Due Date:**  
**April 1, 2005**

Identification Number: C00034470

Reference: 30 Day Post General Report (10/1/04-11/22/04)

Dear Mr. Ricci:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

-Commission Regulations require that a committee disclose the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR §104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name, mailing address, occupation and name of employer. (11 CFR §100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR §104.7(b)(1))

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Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2))  
The request must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution;
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you shall either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(4))

Please provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

-Please amend Schedule B supporting Line 23 by providing the office sought (House, Senate or President), state and congressional district, if applicable for each contribution made. 11 CFR § 104.3(b)(3)(ii) and (v)

-Please identify the name and address of the payee for the in-kind contribution(s) disclosed on Schedule B for Line 23.

If the payments constitute reimbursements to your connected organization, please provide clarification regarding the nature and date of the activity if conducted by your connected organization. In addition, be advised that 2 U.S.C. § 441b prohibits a corporation or labor organization from contributing or expending funds for the purpose of influencing any federal election; however, your connected organization may pay for the solicitation and administrative costs of its separate segregated fund only.

Although the Commission may take further legal steps concerning this matter, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

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-Schedule B supporting Line 23 discloses contributions to federal candidates for which no election designation has been provided. Please note that if no designation is included in your report, the contributions will be attributed to the next upcoming election for the recipient candidate. Thus, for future reporting purposes, it is in your committee's interest to designate the appropriate election in order to avoid the appearance of excessive contributions made to federal candidates by your committee.

Unlike previous election cycles, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered. Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1135.

Sincerely,



Maureen Benita  
Senior Campaign Finance Analyst  
Reports Analysis Division

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